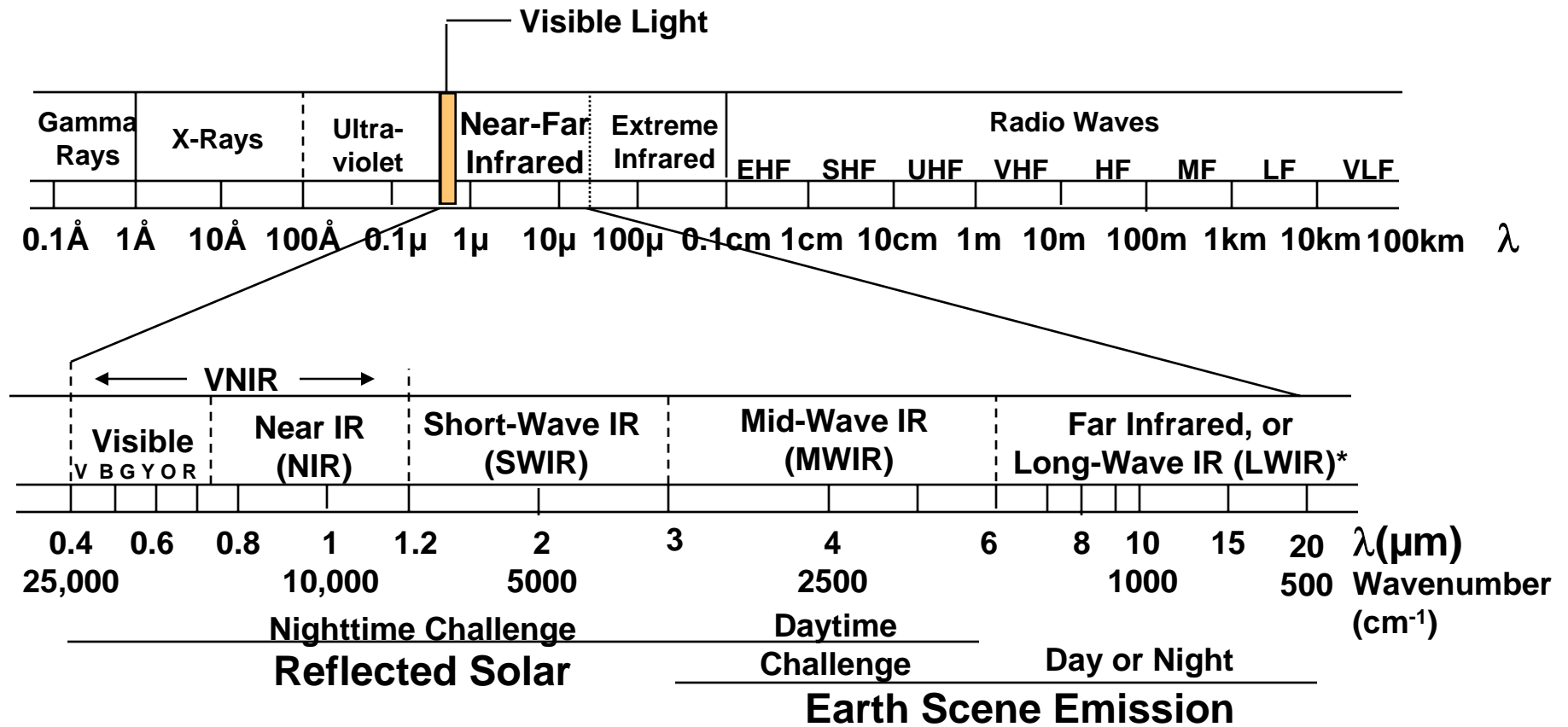

Passive Electro-optical Environmental Imaging

Carl F. Schueler

Presented at Naval Research Laboratory, Monterey CA 14 November 2003

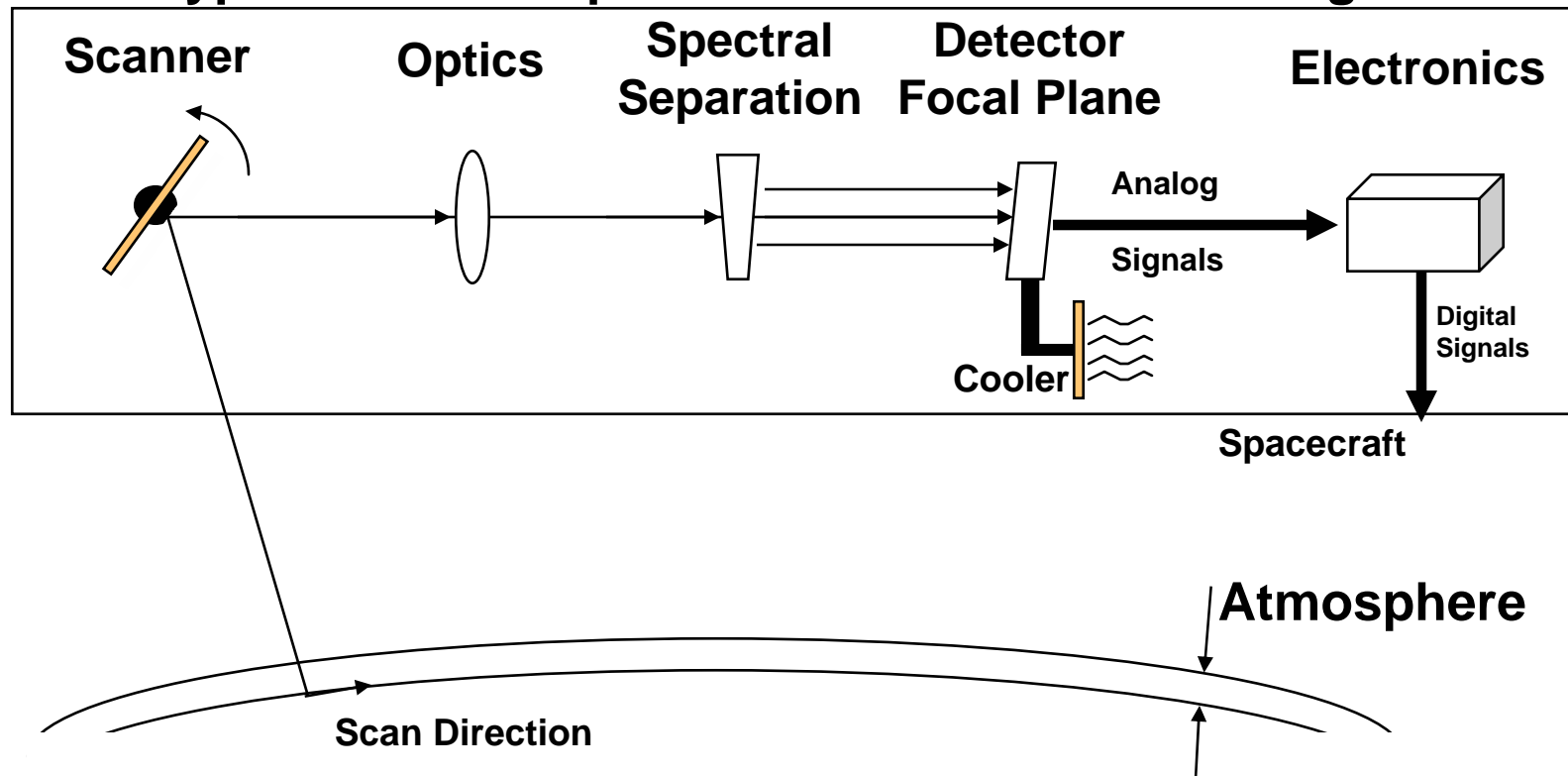
Focus on Visible to Far Infrared



*Also known as Thermal IR (TIR)

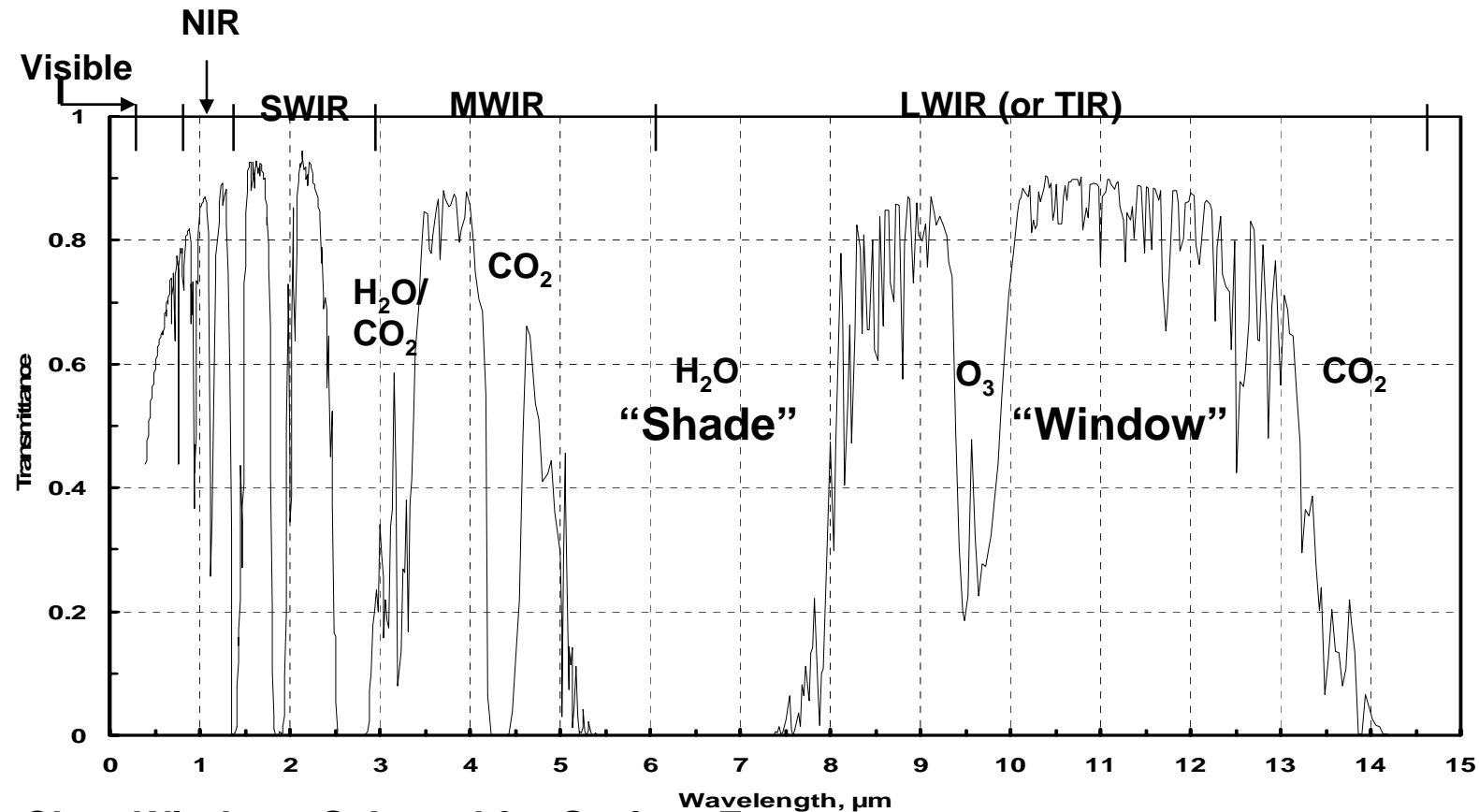
Emitted or Reflected Radiance to Image Data

Typical Electro-Optical Sensor Functional Design



Atmosphere “Shades” & “Windows” Guide Spectral Band Selection

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- Clear Windows Selected for Surface Features
- Steep “Edges” Excellent for Atmospheric Sensing (“Sounding”)
- Transmission Characteristics Caused by Gas Absorption (Main “Culprits” Shown)

MODTRAN standard Atmosphere
Dr. Paul Lommen, SBRS

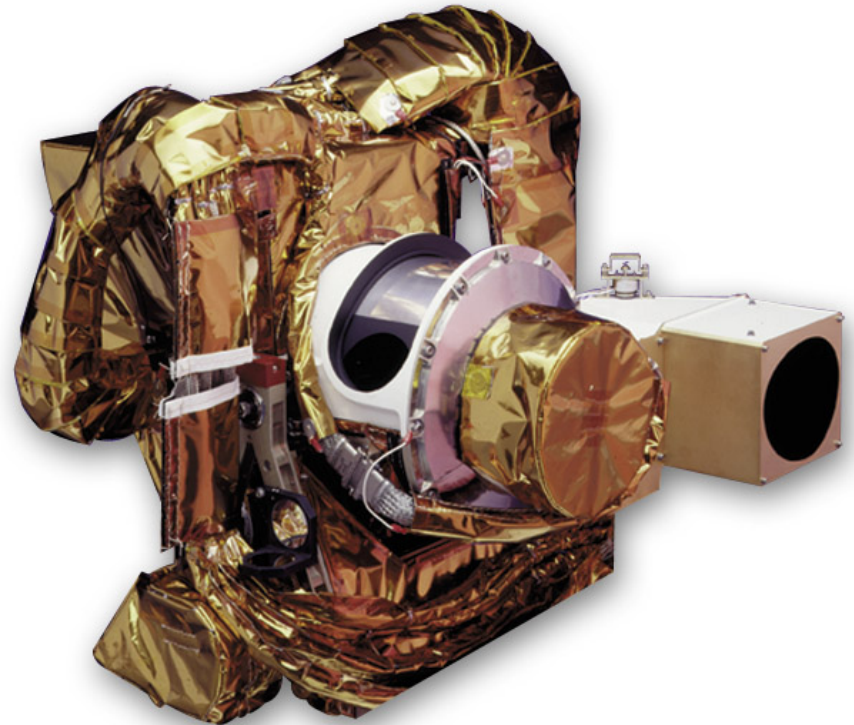
Topics to be Discussed

- **Overview of recent environmental sensors**
 - Sea-Viewing Wide Field-of-View Sensor (SeaWiFS) - 1993
 - Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM) Visible Infrared Scanner (VIRS) - 1997
 - NASA Earth Observing System MODerate-resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) - 1999
 - National Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System (NPOESS). Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) – in development
- **Methodology to define sensor specification from user needs**
- **Compare AVHRR/DMSP OLS and VIIRS Spatial Resolution**
- **Fundamental sensor design issue: Spatial resolution vs. Sensitivity for Feature identification**

Sea-viewing Wide Field-of-view Sensor (SeaWiFS)

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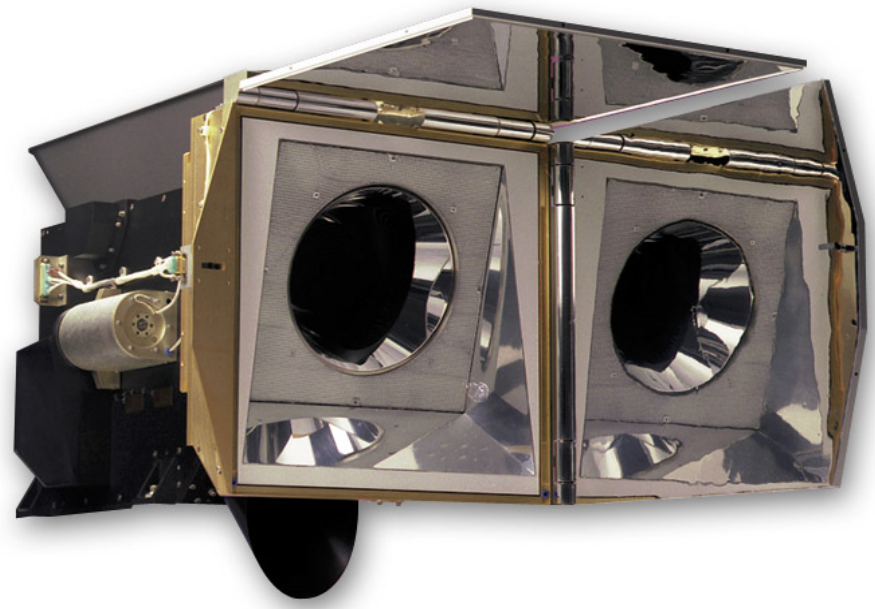
- Delivered December 1993/Launched 4 September 1997
- Orbit: 705km noon polar sun-synchronous
- 1.13 km nadir geometric instantaneous field of view (GIFOV)
- Off-axis, afocal 7.6 cm aperture rotating telescope, focusing aft optics
- 360 rpm telescope cross-track scan
- Sun glint avoidance via commandable +/- 20 degree sensor fore-aft tilt
- 22 kg scanner/24 kg electronics box
- 51 x 51 x 51 cm
- Eight spectral bands 0.4-0.885 μm
- 670-950 Signal-to-noise ratio for ocean reflectance measurements
- On-board solar diffuser calibration update reference



Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM) Visible Infrared Scanner (VIRS)

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- Launched 27 November 1997
- Orbit: 350km equatorial 35 degree inclination
- 2km nadir GIFOV
- 2-mirror Cassegrain 9 cm aperture telescope
- Cross-track “paddle” scan mirror (similar to MODIS scan design)
- 24 kg scanner/13 kg electronics box
- 43 x 80 x 46 cm scanner dimensions
- 5 (AVHRR) spectral bands 0.63-12 μm
- Excellent SNR and NEdT for cloud analyses via passive radiative cooling
- On-board calibration update references:
 - Solar diffuser for reflective bands
 - Blackbody for emissive bands



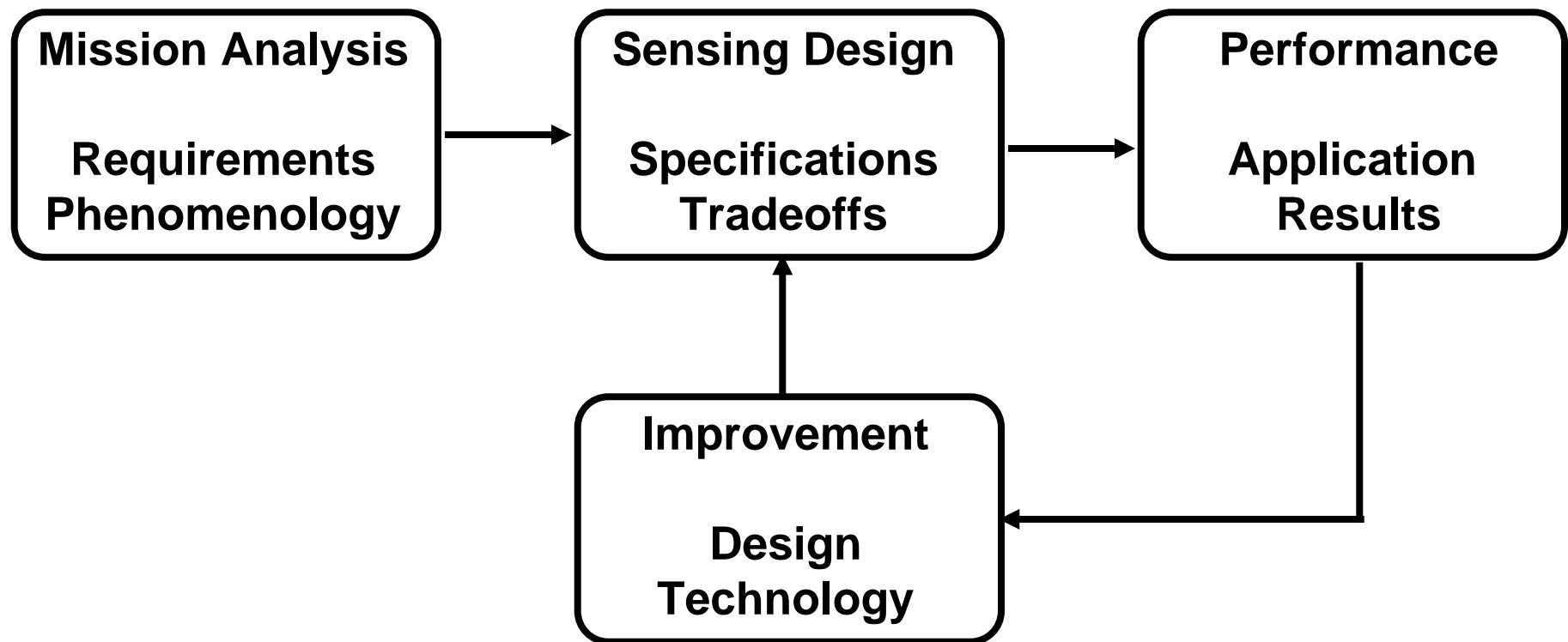
MODerate-resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS)

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- First launched 18 December 1999 on NASA's EOS Terra spacecraft
- Orbit: 705km polar sun-synchronous 2230 ascending (& Aqua 1330 ascending)
- Nadir GIFOVs: 250m in 2 vis bands; 500m in 5 VNIR bands; 1km in 29 VNIR-LWIR bands
- Off-axis, afocal with intermediate field stop and focusing refractive aft optics
- 20 rpm cross-track "paddle" scan mirror
- 250 kg scanner/electronics package
- 100 x 160 x 100 cm
- Excellent SNR and NEdT for atmosphere, land, and ocean analyses via passive radiative cooling
- On-board calibration update references:
 - Solar diffuser and stability monitor for reflective bands
 - Blackbody for emissive bands
 - Space and lunar views
 - Spectroradiometric calibration assembly for spectral band registration and center updates



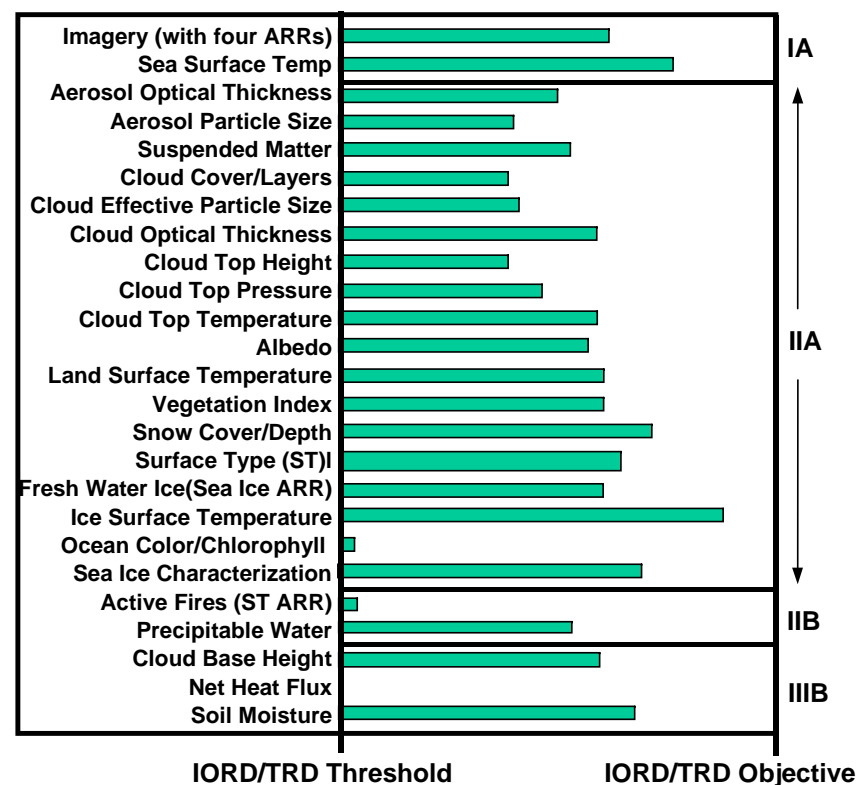
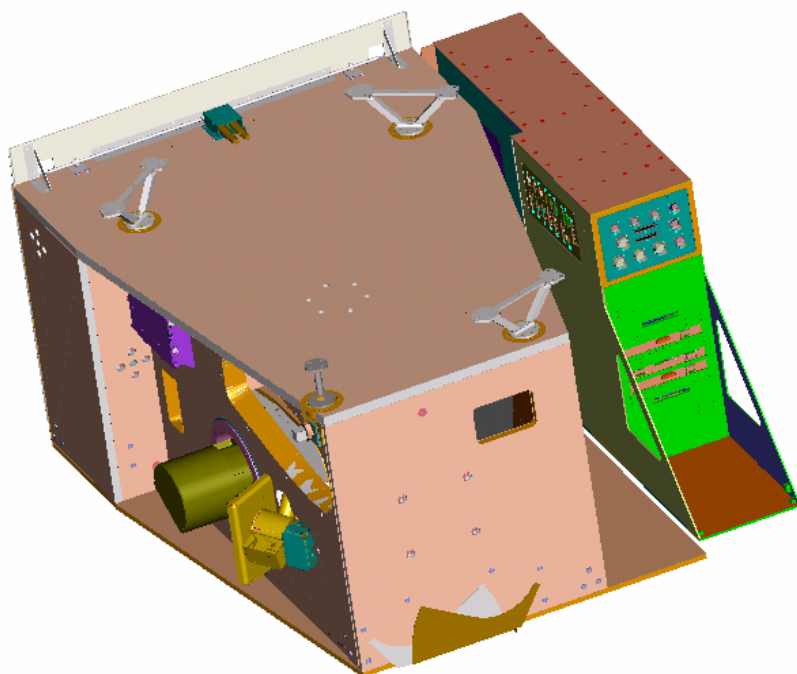
User Needs Drove Design



VIIRS Provides Environmental Data Records (EDRs)

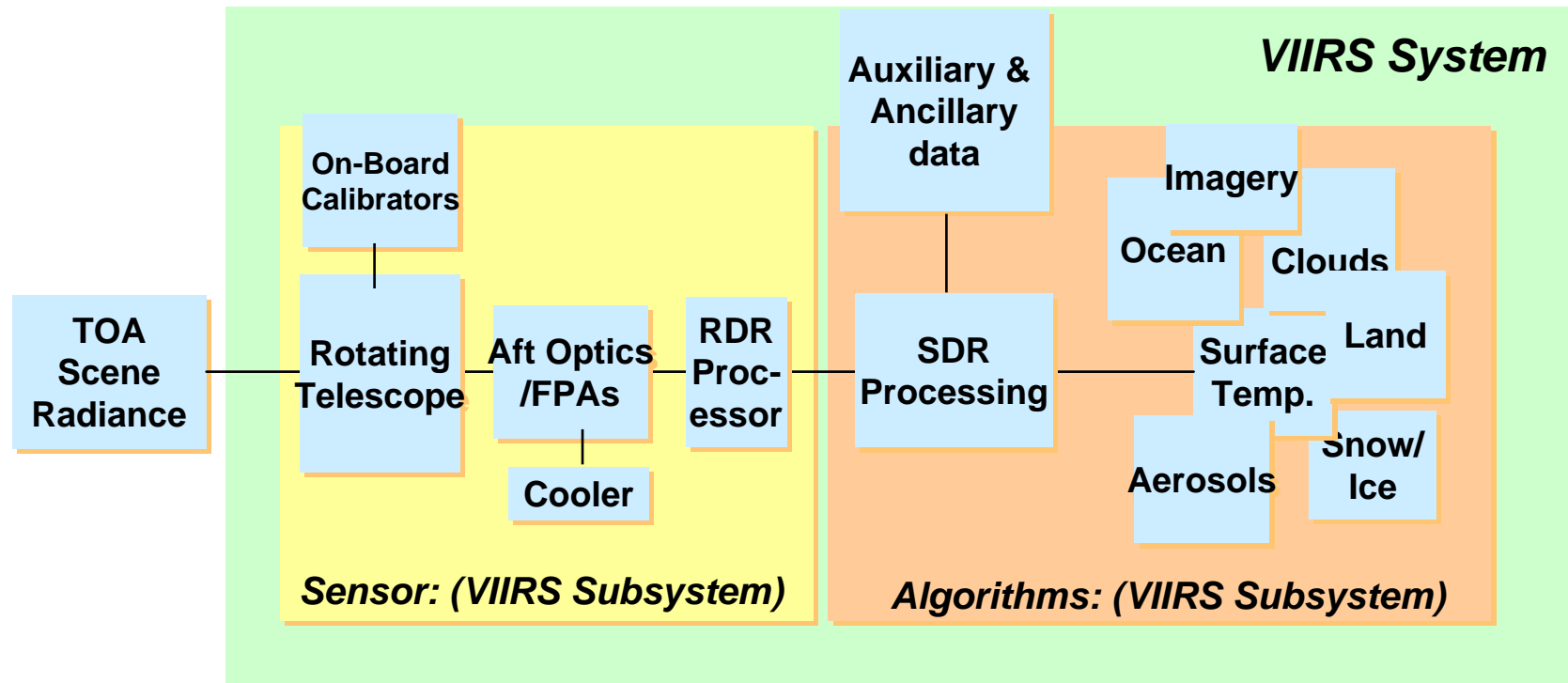
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- Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) System Design based on integrated Sensor and Algorithms
- Engineering Development Unit (EDU) approaching integration at SBRS
- EDR Science Algorithms developed, documented, and publicly released Spring 2002 by Raytheon Technical Services Company (RTSC) Information Technology and Scientific Services (ITSS)

EDR Performance Verified by Hardware & Testbed

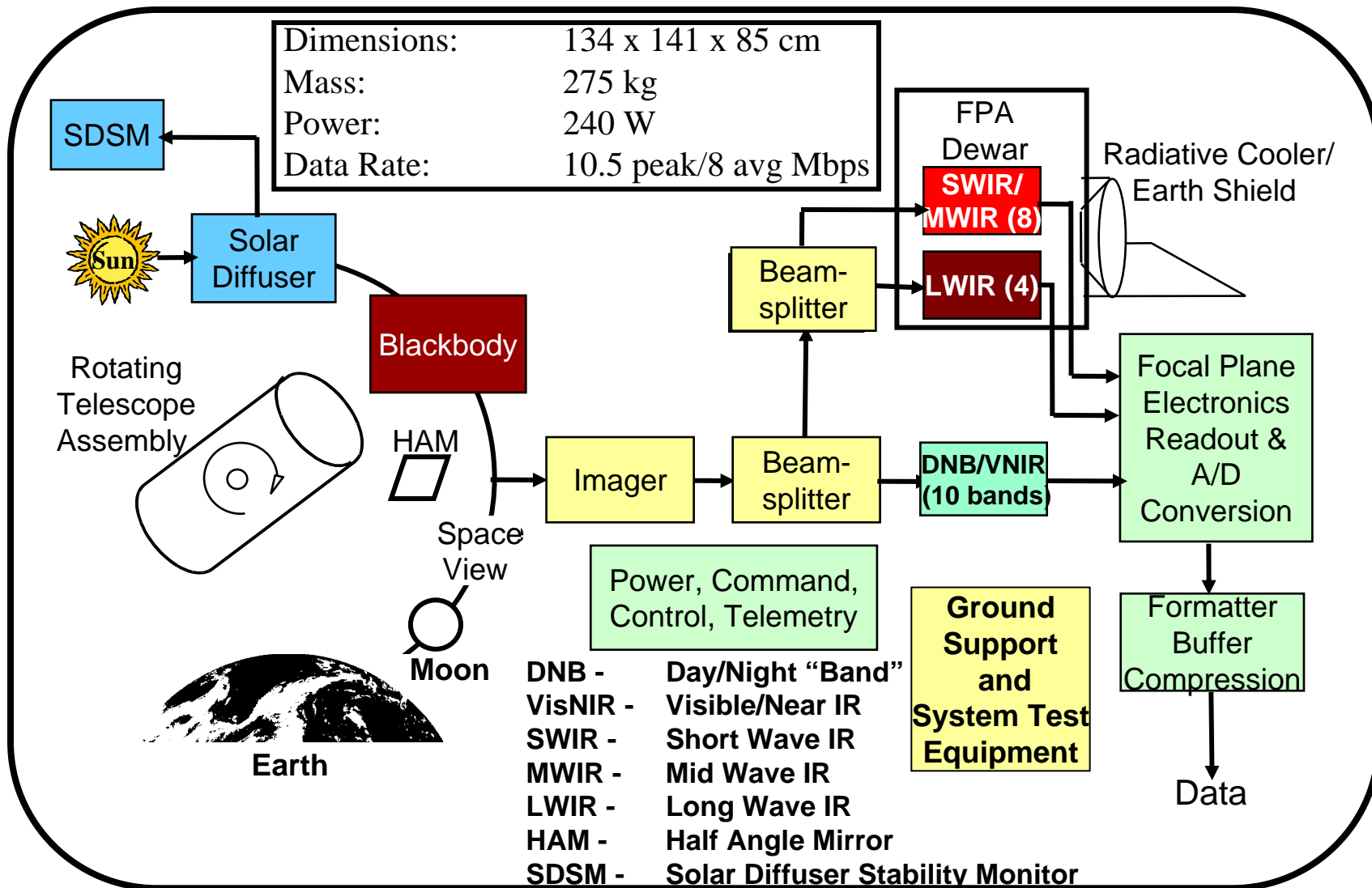


**Closed
the
Loop!**

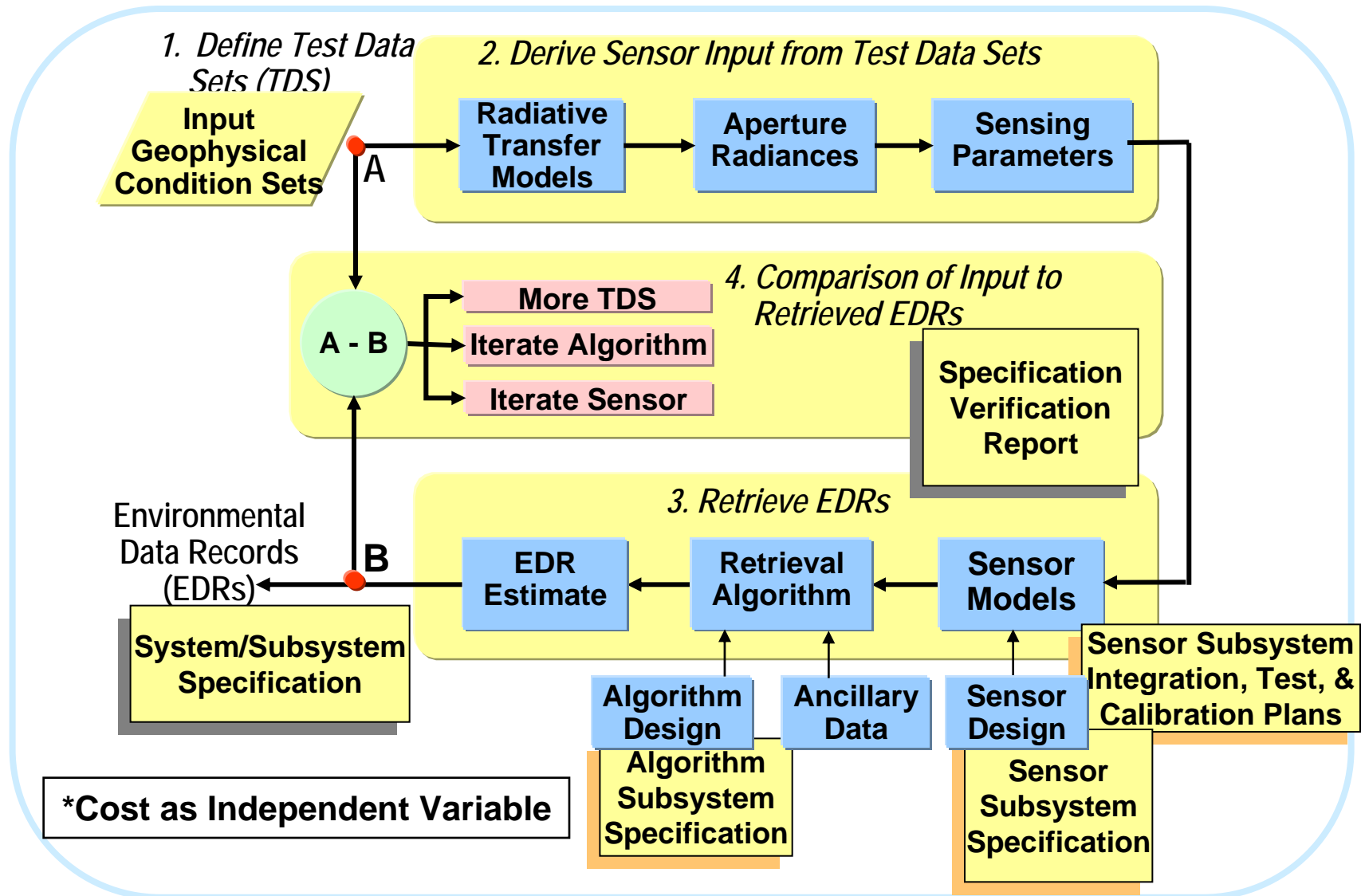
- EDRs drive algorithm and raw sensor data requirements
- Sensor specification derived from EDRs with testbed
- Sensor performance verified by hardware risk-reduction demonstrations and analyses
- EDR performance verified by testbed with sensor models

Photons to Digital Data: VIIRS Architecture Stable Since PDR

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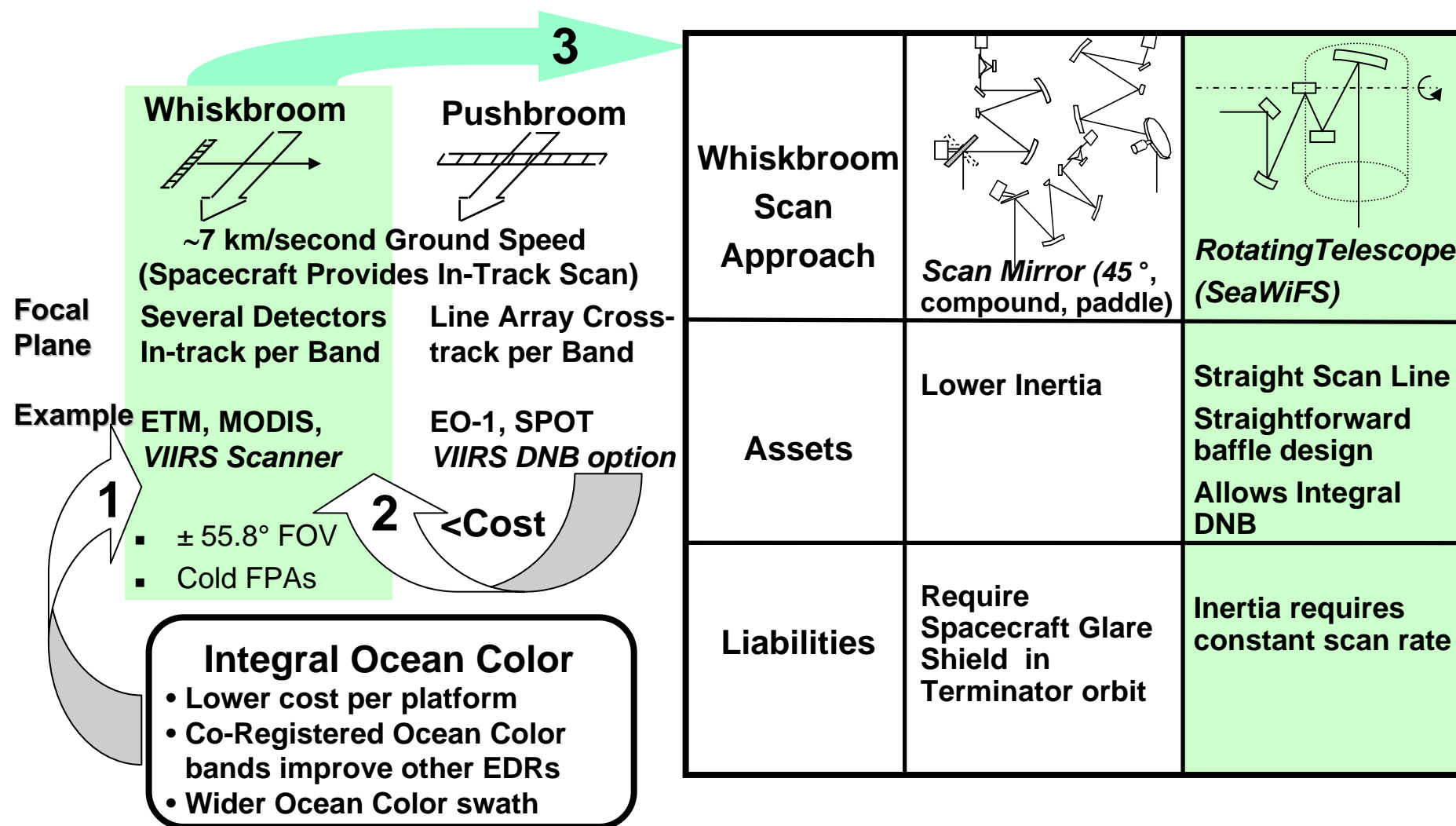
Testbed-based CAIV* Trades For “Best Value” Optimization



CAIV Trades For Best Value Single Sensor Configuration

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Solar intrusion in Terminator orbit: Rotating Telescope Design Driver

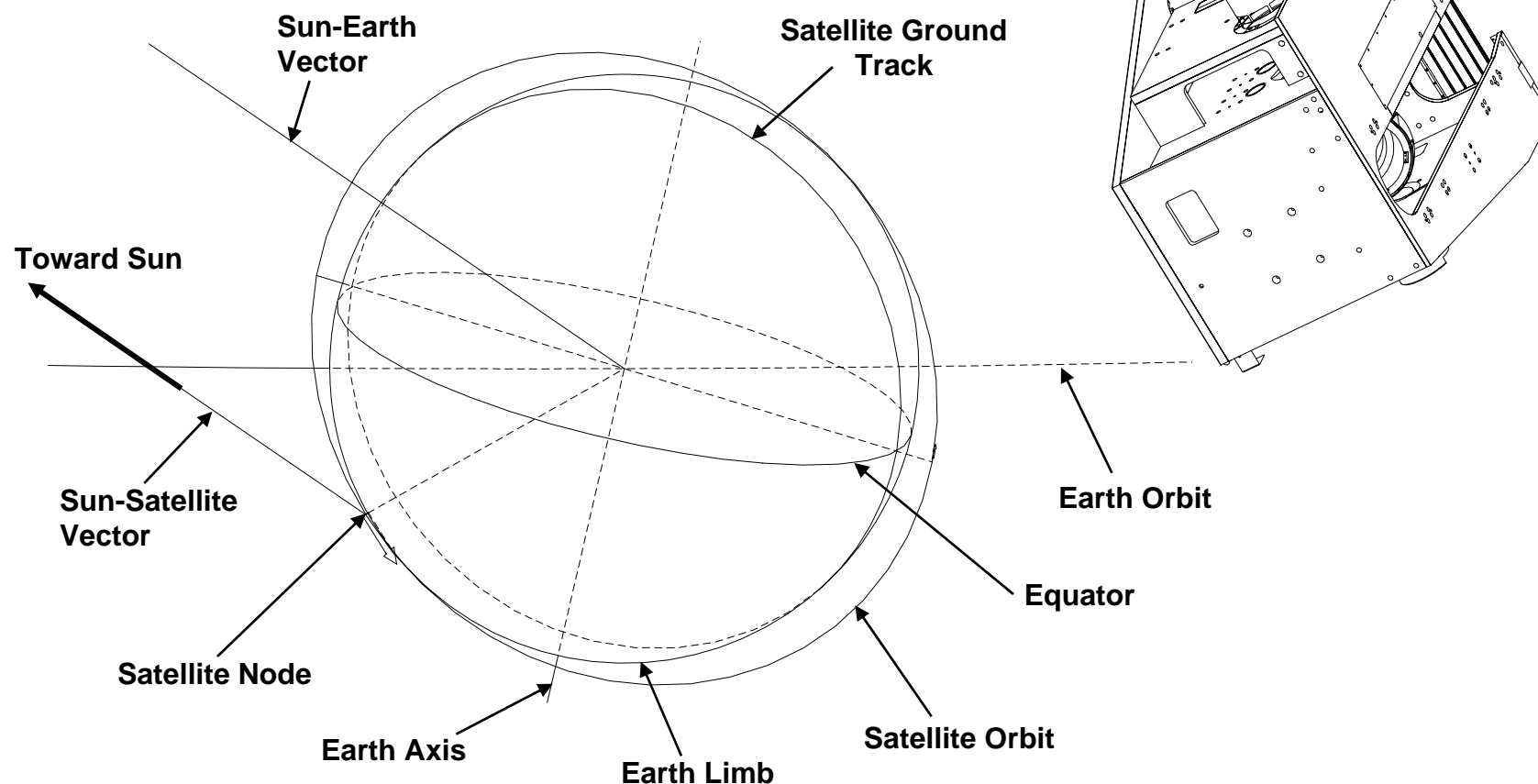
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Terminator Orbit, Beta = 63 deg

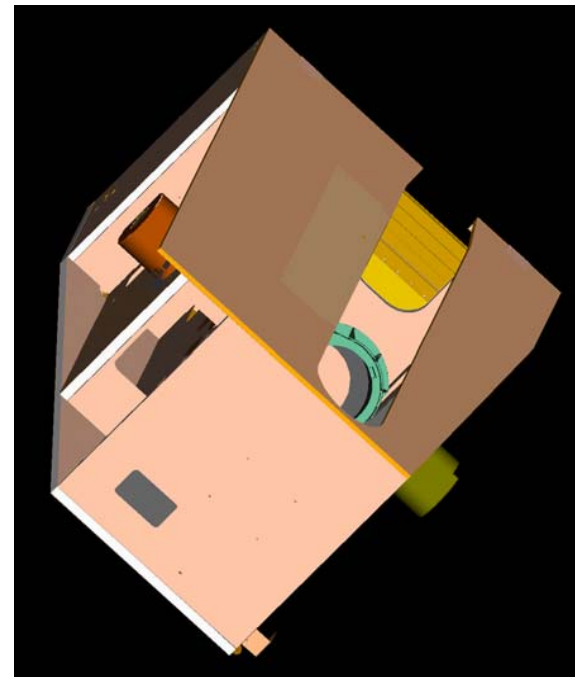
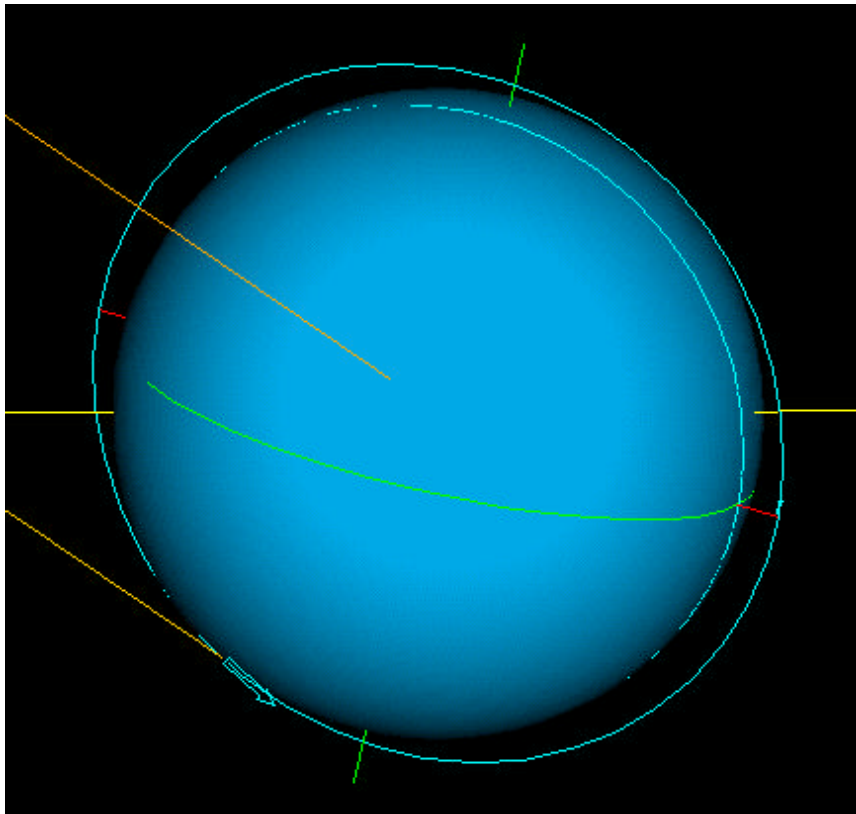
Satellite Position: 10 minutes
Prior to Max Solar Exposure

Direct View of Sensor from the Sun



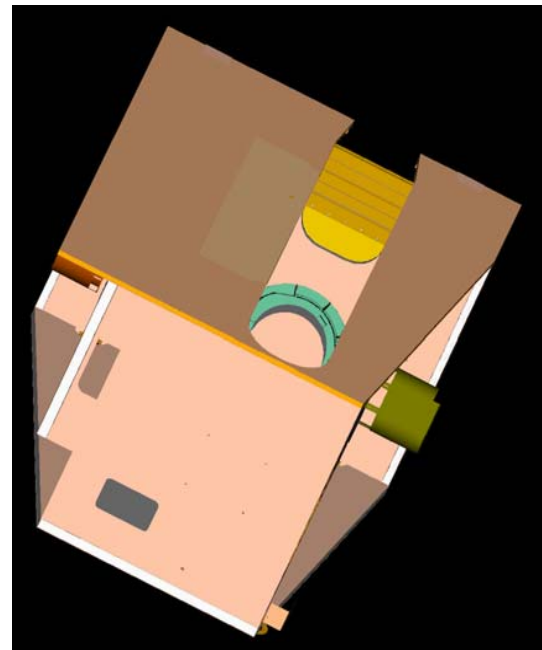
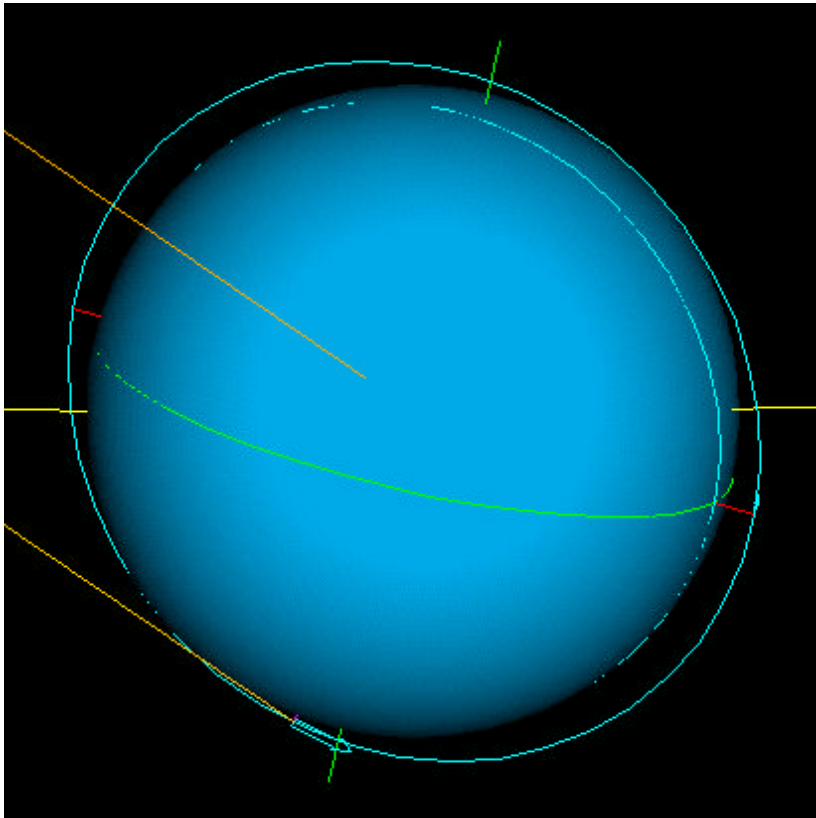
Satellite Position: 5 minutes Prior to Max Solar Exposure

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Satellite Position: During Max Solar Exposure

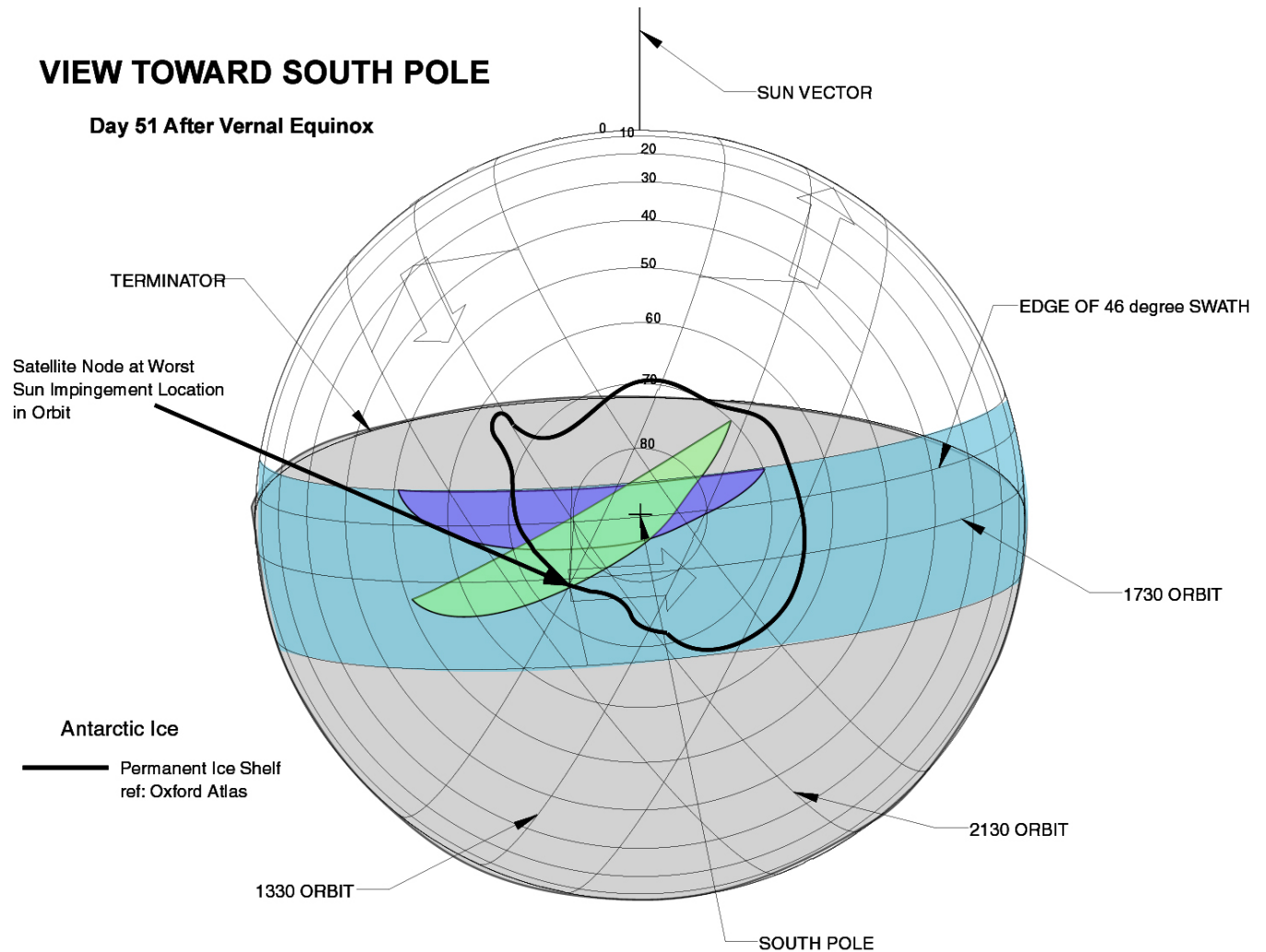
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Sensor Provides Optimum Coverage in Terminator Orbits

**Baffled
telescope has
low sensitivity to
far field glare
and solar
impingement**

**Data available
from preceding
orbit and/or
Sensors in mid-
day orbits can
fill-in gap**

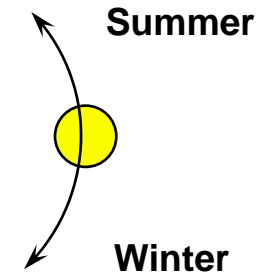
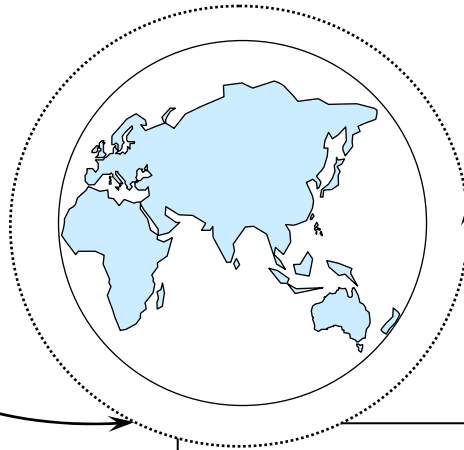


EDR Performance Optimized Over Environmental Conditions

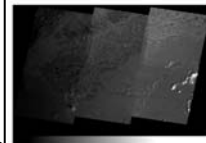
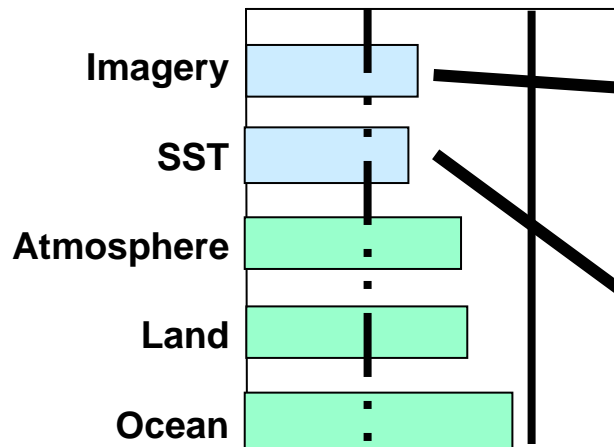
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Attributes Stratified

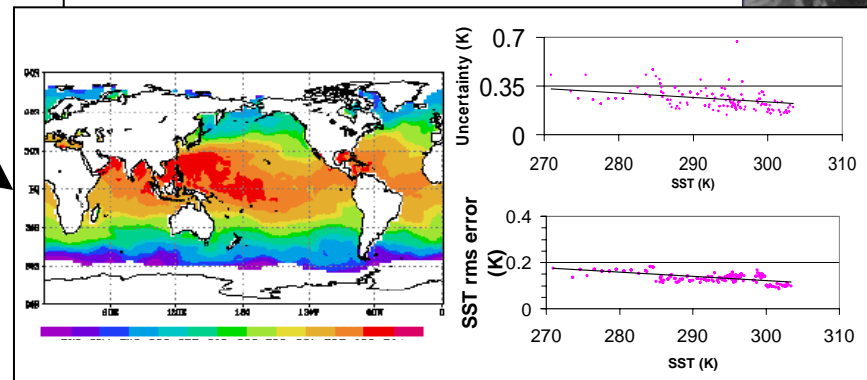
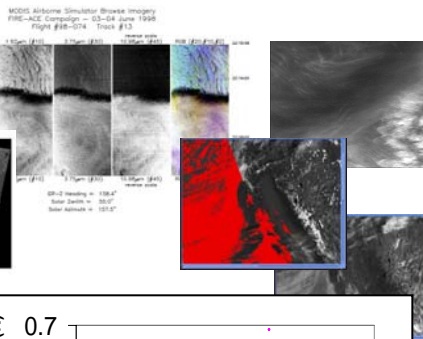
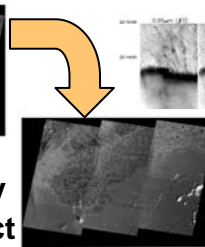
- By Geographic Region
- Seasonally
- Over Measurement Range



Objective Threshold



High Quality
NCC Product



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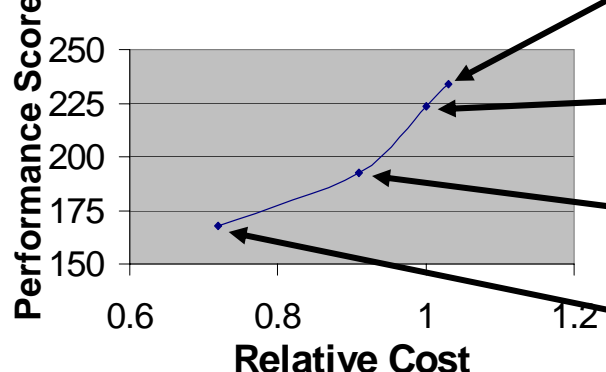


Robust Spectral Capability with Science Bonus

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Bandset Cost vs. Performance

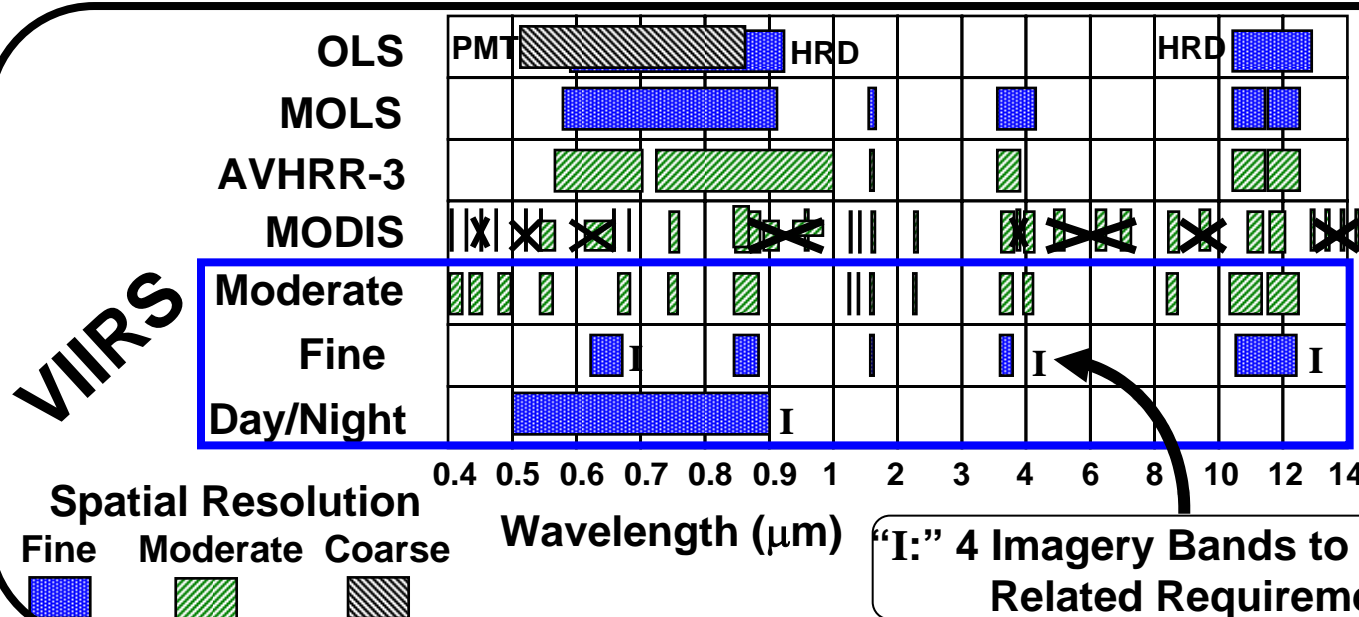


4. 22 Bands: 17 + Fine NDVI + Fine Snow + Aerosol + 2 Cloud
dUtility/dCost ~ 1 + "Bonus" Fine SRD HCSs

3. 17 Bands: 11 + 4 Ocean color + Aerosol + Cloud
Utility/Cost > 1

2. 11 Bands: 8 + Snow + NDVI + Aerosol + 3rd focal plane
Need Ocean Color Bands to Approach Threshold

1. 8 Bands: DNB + (3 Imaging + 4 SST)/2 focal planes
Meet Imagery/SST but few Category IIA Thresholds



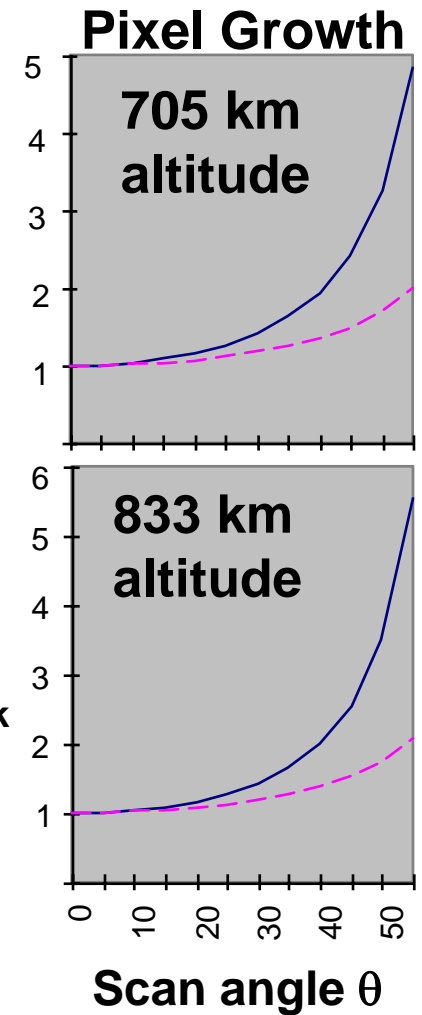
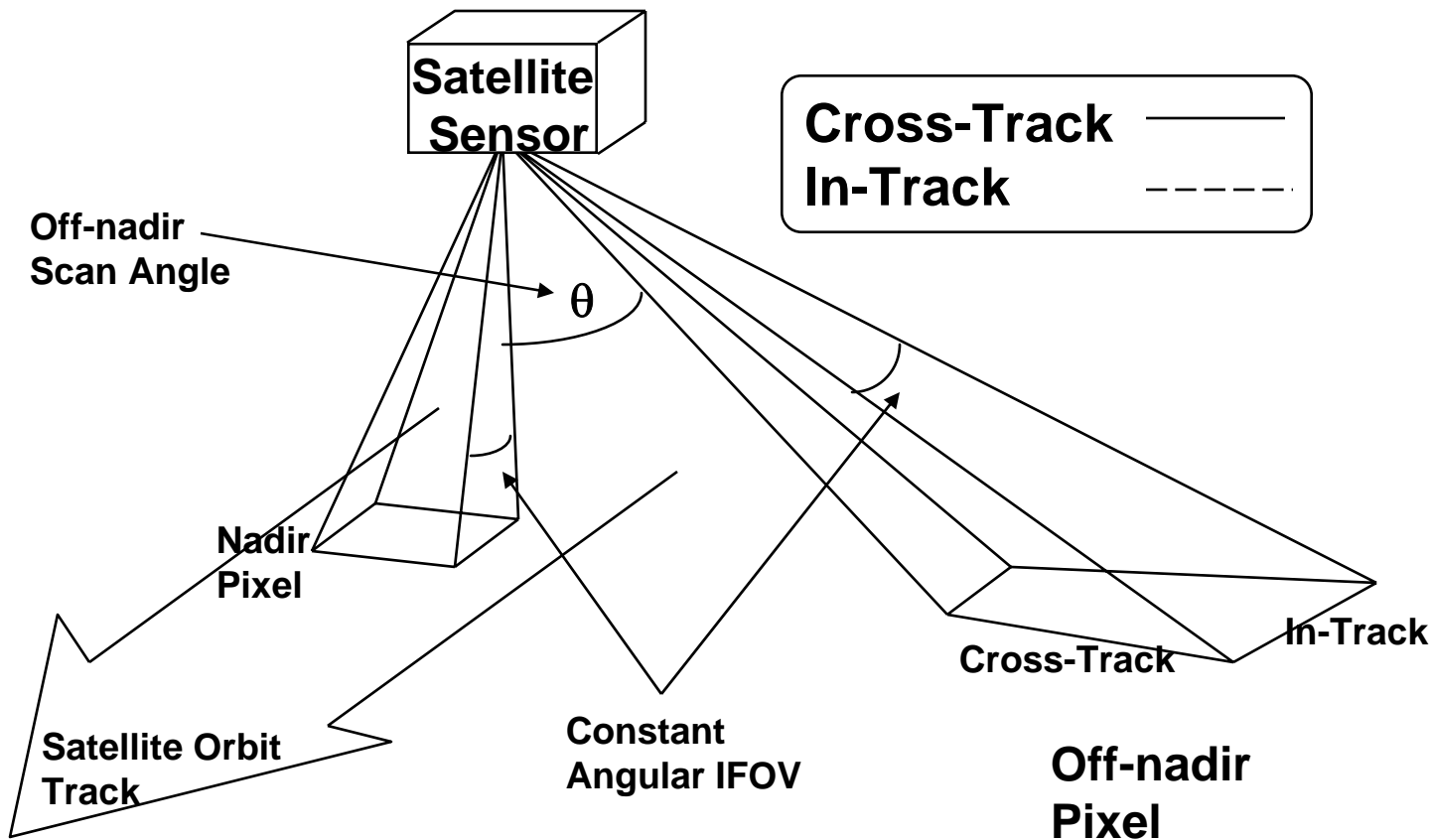
Spectral, Spatial, & Radiometric Attributes of 22 VIIRS Bands

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	Band No.	Wave-length (μm)	Horiz Sample Interval (km Downtrack x Crosstrack)		Driving EDRs	Radiance Range	Ltyp or Ttyp	Signal to Noise Ratio (dimensionless) or NEΔT (Kelvins)		
			Nadir	End of Scan				Required	Predicted	Margin
VIS/NIR FPA Silicon PIN Diodes	M1	0.412	0.742 x 0.259	1.60 x 1.58	Ocean Color Aerosols	Low High	44.9 155	352 316	441 807	25% 155%
	M2	0.445	0.742 x 0.259	1.60 x 1.58	Ocean Color Aerosols	Low High	40 146	380 409	524 926	38% 126%
	M3	0.488	0.742 x 0.259	1.60 x 1.58	Ocean Color Aerosols	Low High	32 123	416 414	542 730	30% 76%
	M4	0.555	0.742 x 0.259	1.60 x 1.58	Ocean Color Aerosols	Low High	21 90	362 315	455 638	26% 102%
	I1	0.640	0.371 x 0.387	0.80 x 0.789	Imagery	Single	22	119	146	23%
	M5	0.672	0.742 x 0.259	1.60 x 1.58	Ocean Color Aerosols	Low High	10 68	242 360	298 522	23% 45%
	M6	0.746	0.742 x 0.776	1.60 x 1.58	Atmospheric Corr'n	Single	9.6	199	239	20%
	I2	0.865	0.371 x 0.387	0.80 x 0.789	NDVI	Single	25	150	225	50%
	M7	0.865	0.742 x 0.259	1.60 x 1.58	Ocean Color Aerosols	Low High	6.4 33.4	215 340	388 494	81% 45%
CCD	DNB	0.7	0.742 x 0.742	0.742 x 0.742	Imagery	Var.	6.70E-05	6	5.7	-5%
S/MWIR PV HgCdTe (HCT)	M8	1.24	0.742 x 0.776	1.60 x 1.58	Cloud Particle Size	Single	5.4	74	98	32%
	M9	1.378	0.742 x 0.776	1.60 x 1.58	Cirrus/Cloud Cover	Single	6	83	155	88%
	I3	1.61	0.371 x 0.387	0.80 x 0.789	Binary Snow Map	Single	7.3	6.0	97	1523%
	M10	1.61	0.742 x 0.776	1.60 x 1.58	Snow Fraction	Single	7.3	342	439	28%
	M11	2.25	0.742 x 0.776	1.60 x 1.58	Clouds	Single	0.12	10	17	66%
	I4	3.74	0.371 x 0.387	0.80 x 0.789	Imagery Clouds	Single	270 K	2.500	0.486	415%
	M12	3.70	0.742 x 0.776	1.60 x 1.58	SST	Single	270 K	0.396	0.218	82%
	M13	4.05	0.742 x 0.259	1.60 x 1.58	SST Fires	Low High	300 K 380 K	0.107 0.423	0.063 0.334	69% 27%
LWIR PV HCT	M14	8.55	0.742 x 0.776	1.60 x 1.58	Cloud Top Properties	Single	270 K	0.091	0.075	22%
	M15	10.763	0.742 x 0.776	1.60 x 1.58	SST	Single	300 K	0.070	0.038	85%
	I5	11.450	0.371 x 0.387	0.80 x 0.789	Cloud Imagery	Single	210 K	1.500	0.789	90%
	M16	12.013	0.742 x 0.776	1.60 x 1.58	SST	Single	300 K	0.072	0.051	42%

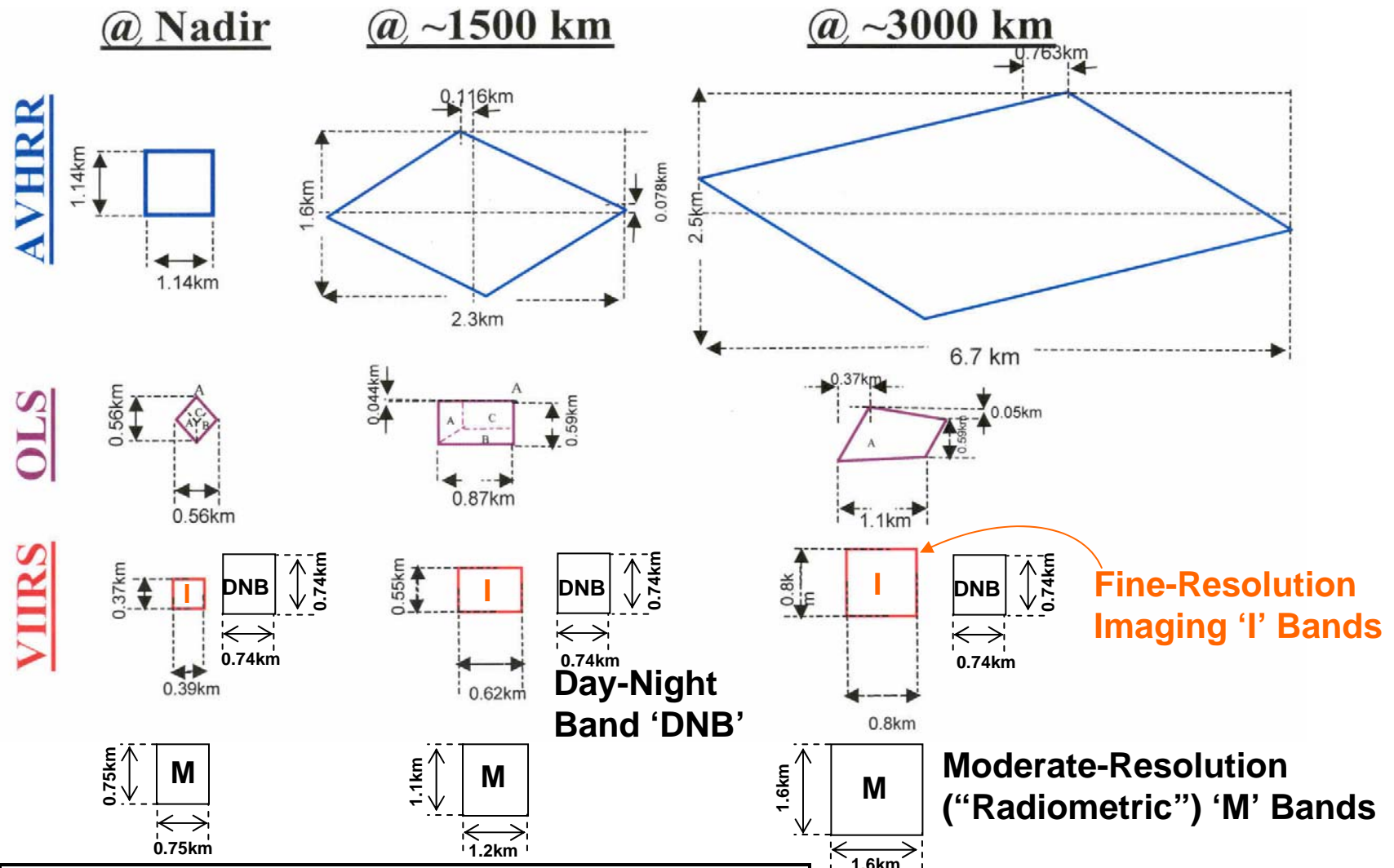
Nadir to Edge of Scan Pixel Growth



Finer Sampling, Spatial Resolution & Better Sensitivity

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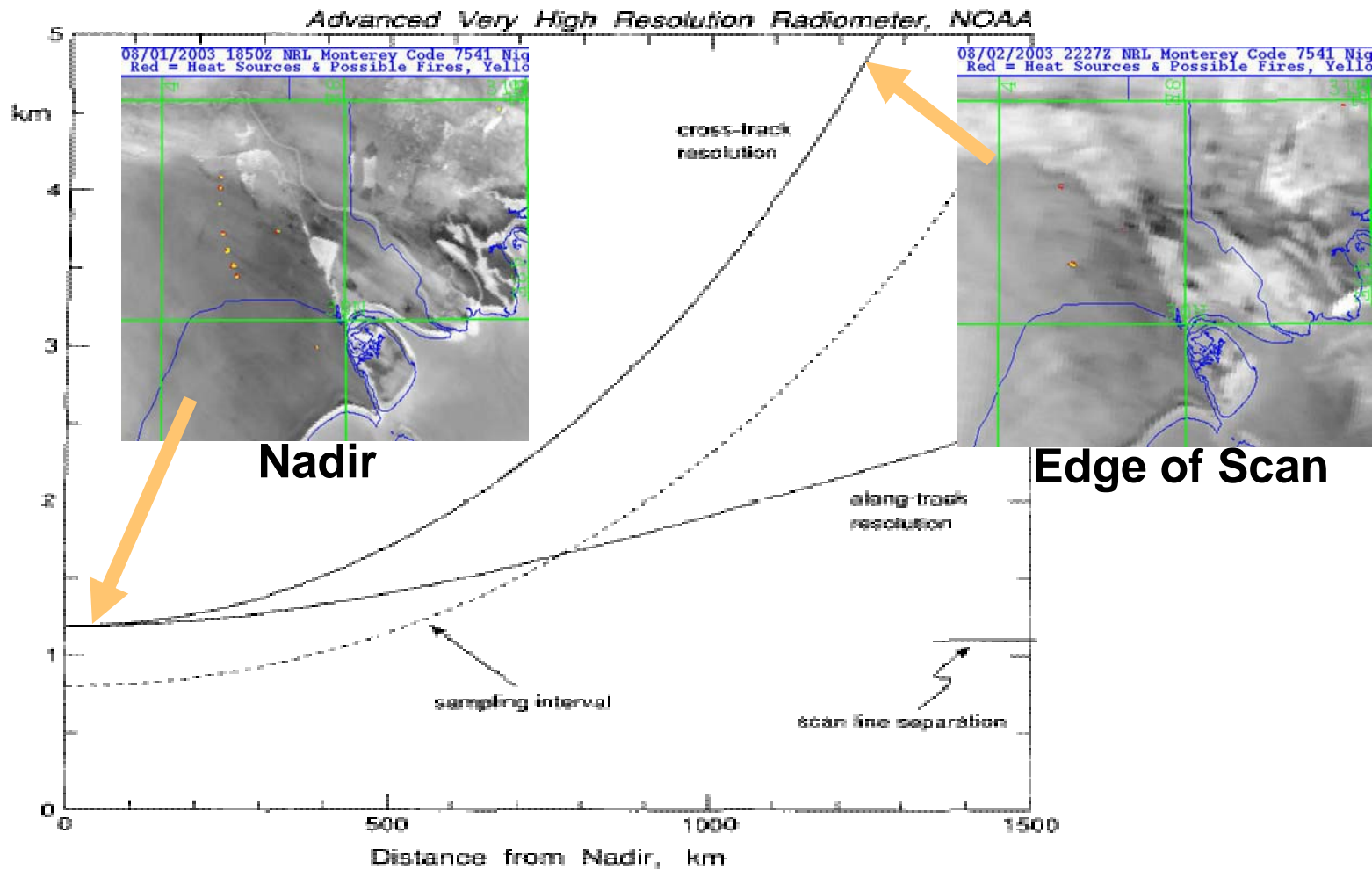


SNR predicted and specified at worst-case edge of scan:
~60% better nadir SNR *and* finer spatial resolution

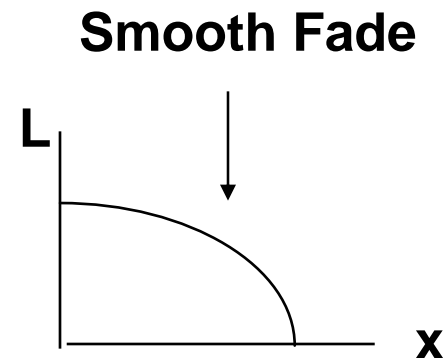
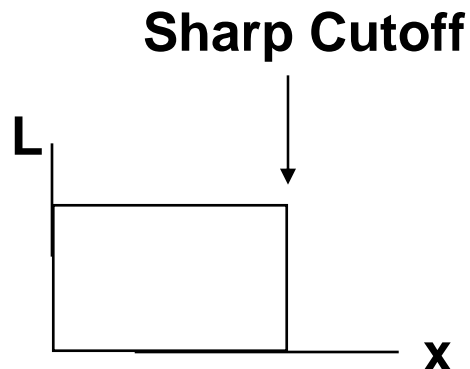
AVHRR Scan Geometry: Nadir & Edge of Scan

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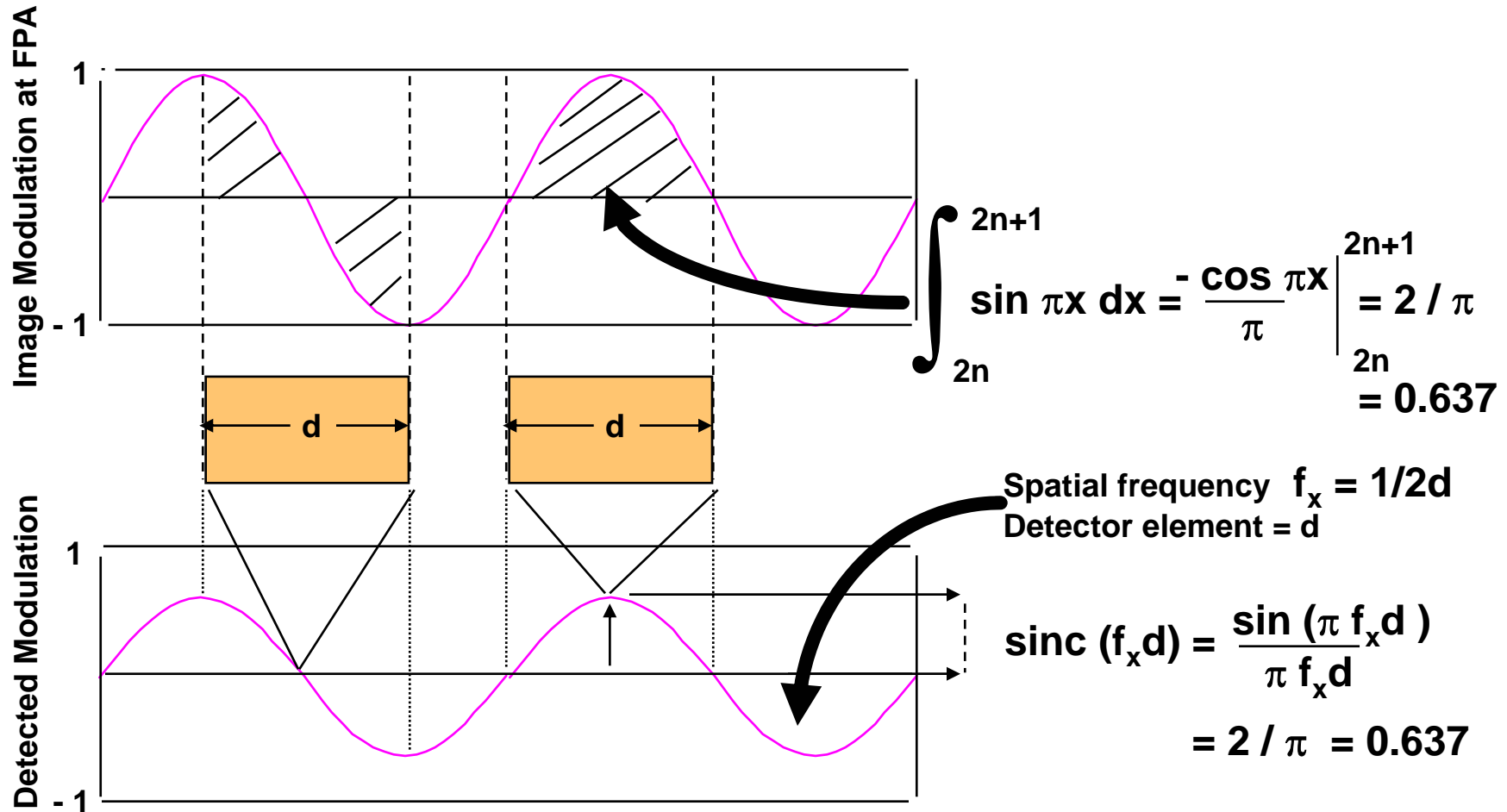
Spatial Frequency Concept: Powerful, Practical Design Tool



- **Sharp Cutoff More Difficult to Reproduce Than Smooth Fade**
- **Smooth Fade Does Not Contain “High Spatial Frequency” Intensity Variations - Less Affected by System Blur**
- **Any Function Can Be Represented by a Linear Summation of Pure Sinusoids**
- **The Smooth Fade *Contains* Fewer High Frequency Sinusoids Than the Sharp Cutoff**

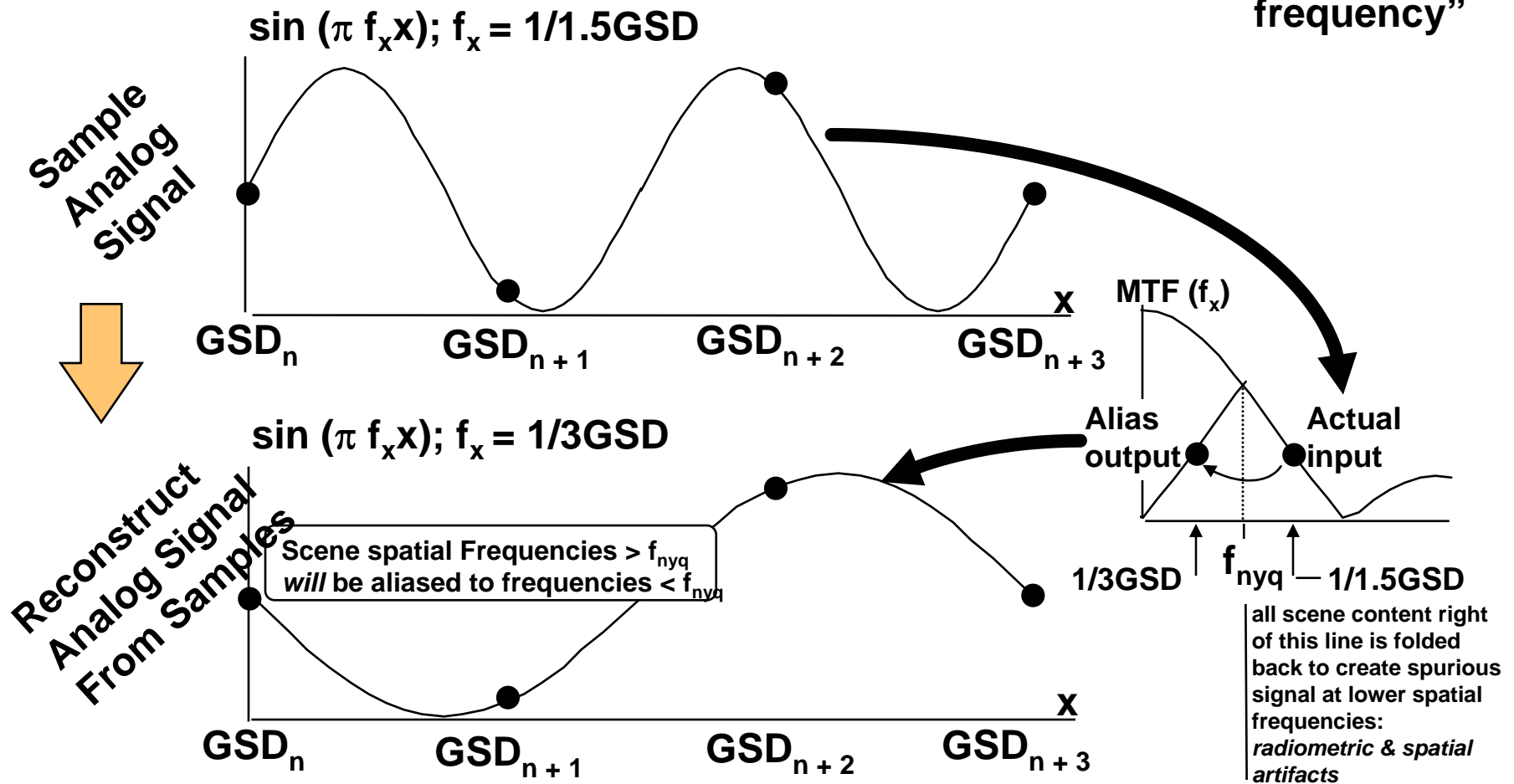
Sine Wave Response is Modulation Transfer Function (MTF)

Transfer of Scene Sine-Wave Modulation through System to Image



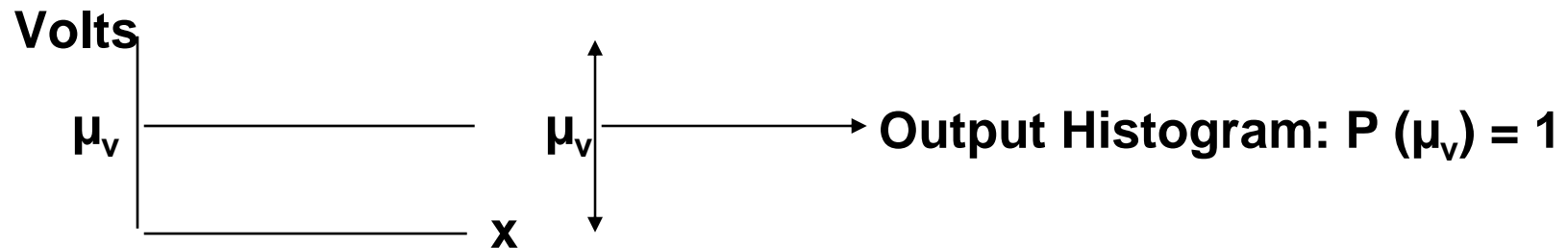
Sampling Causes “Aliasing” Error

- GSD defines “Nyquist Sampling Rate” $f_x = f_{nyq} = 1/2GSD$
- Consider Image Sine Wave component at $f_x = 1/1.5GSD > f_{nyq}$: “folding frequency”

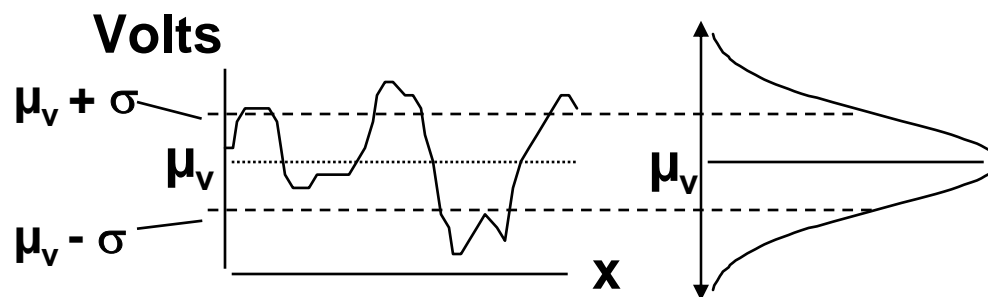


Radiometric Resolution is Limited by Noise

- Consider Sensor Response to a Constant Radiance Input
- If We Could Obtain a Signal Like This:

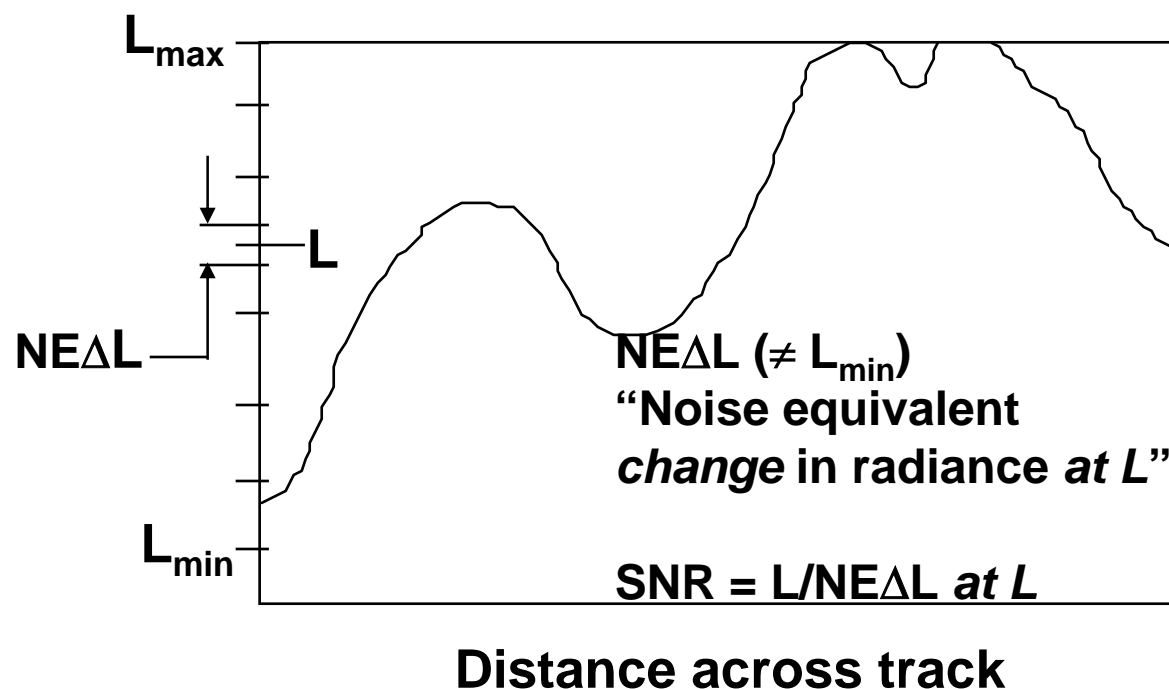


- Then Radiometric sensitivity would be unlimited
- Of course, that is impossible. Signal is more like this:

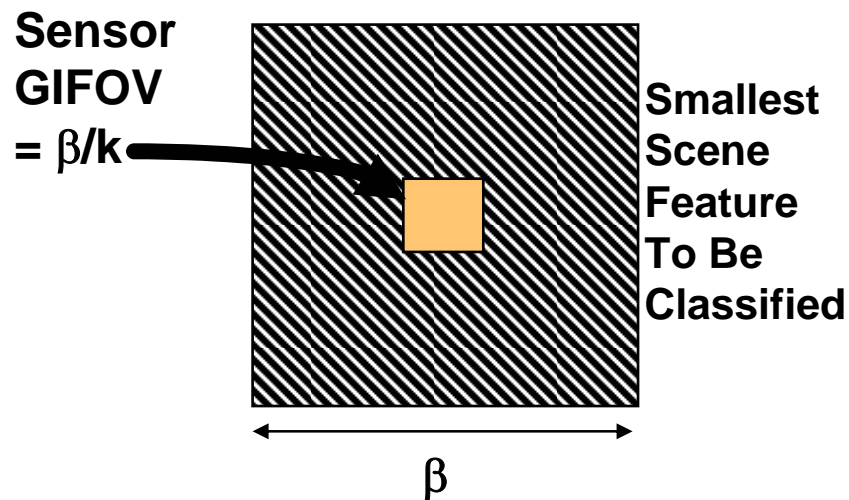


- Output Histogram ~ Gaussian
 $P(\mu_v - \sigma < \text{Volts} < \mu_v + \sigma) \sim 67\%$
- Maximize Signal-to-Noise Ratio:
 $\text{SNR} = \mu_v / \sigma$

Signal to Noise Ratio = $L/NE\Delta L$



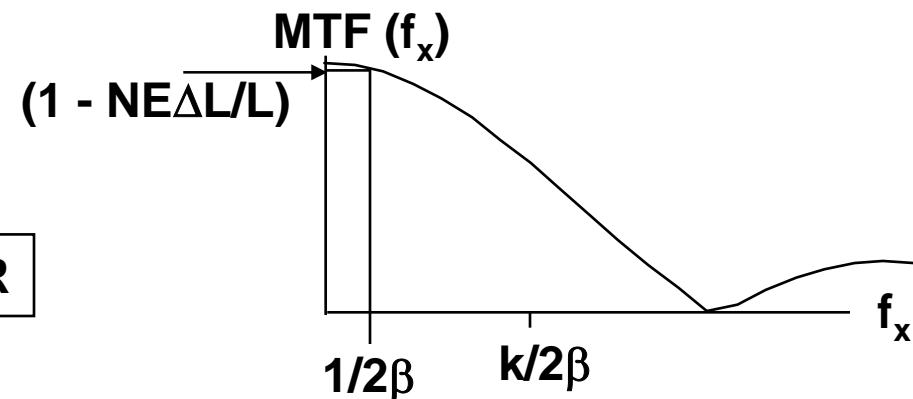
Design Challenge: Optimize MTF & SNR to Features



Want smallest k (largest GIFOV) to match SNR ($L/NE\Delta L$):

1. Radiometric Precision Error ($NE\Delta L/L$) ~ Allowable MTF Reduction at $f_x = 1/2\beta$
2. Select k so that sensor MTF > allowable value at $f_x = 1/2\beta$

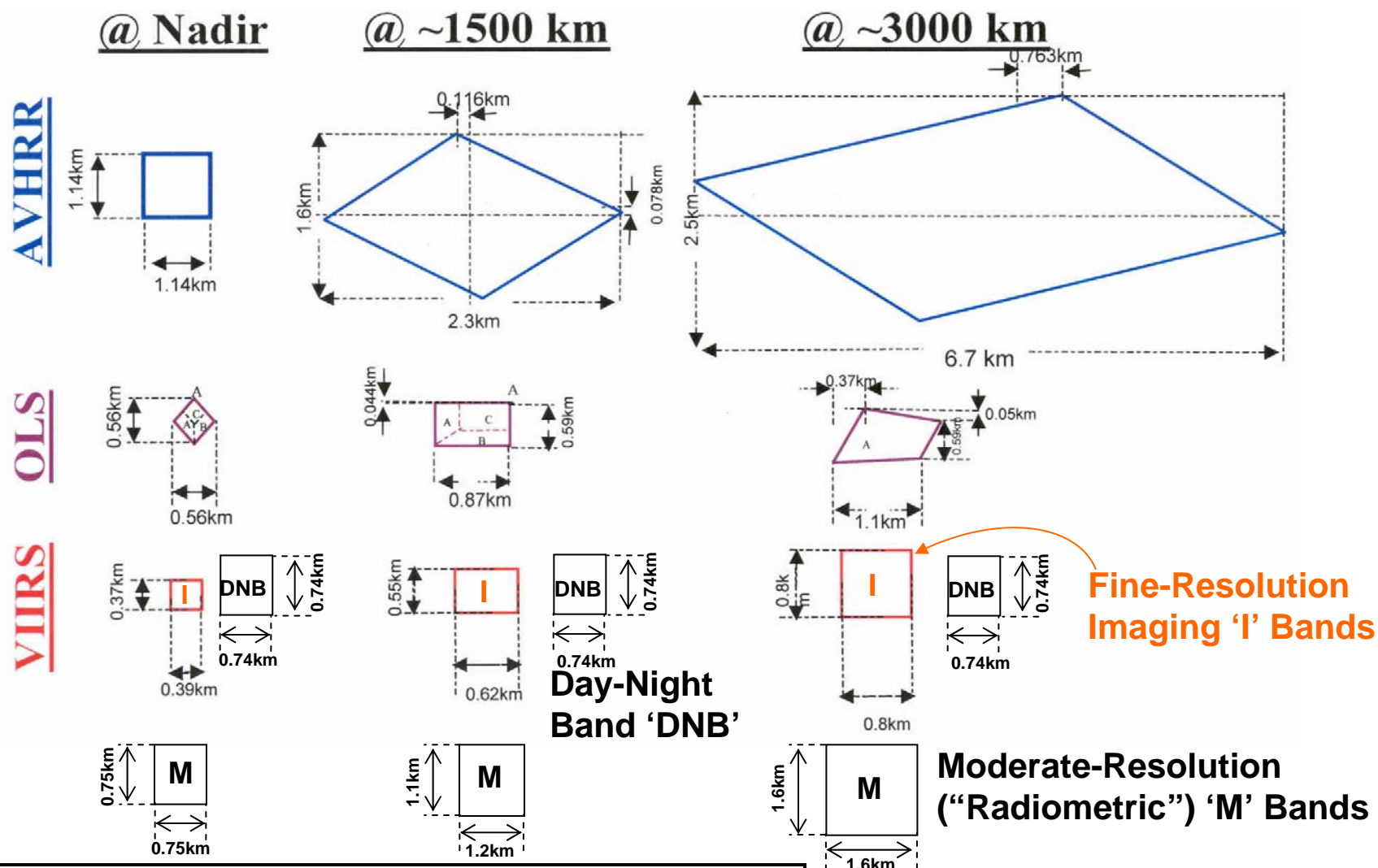
Want Small GIFOV and High SNR



Finer Sampling, Spatial Resolution & Better Sensitivity

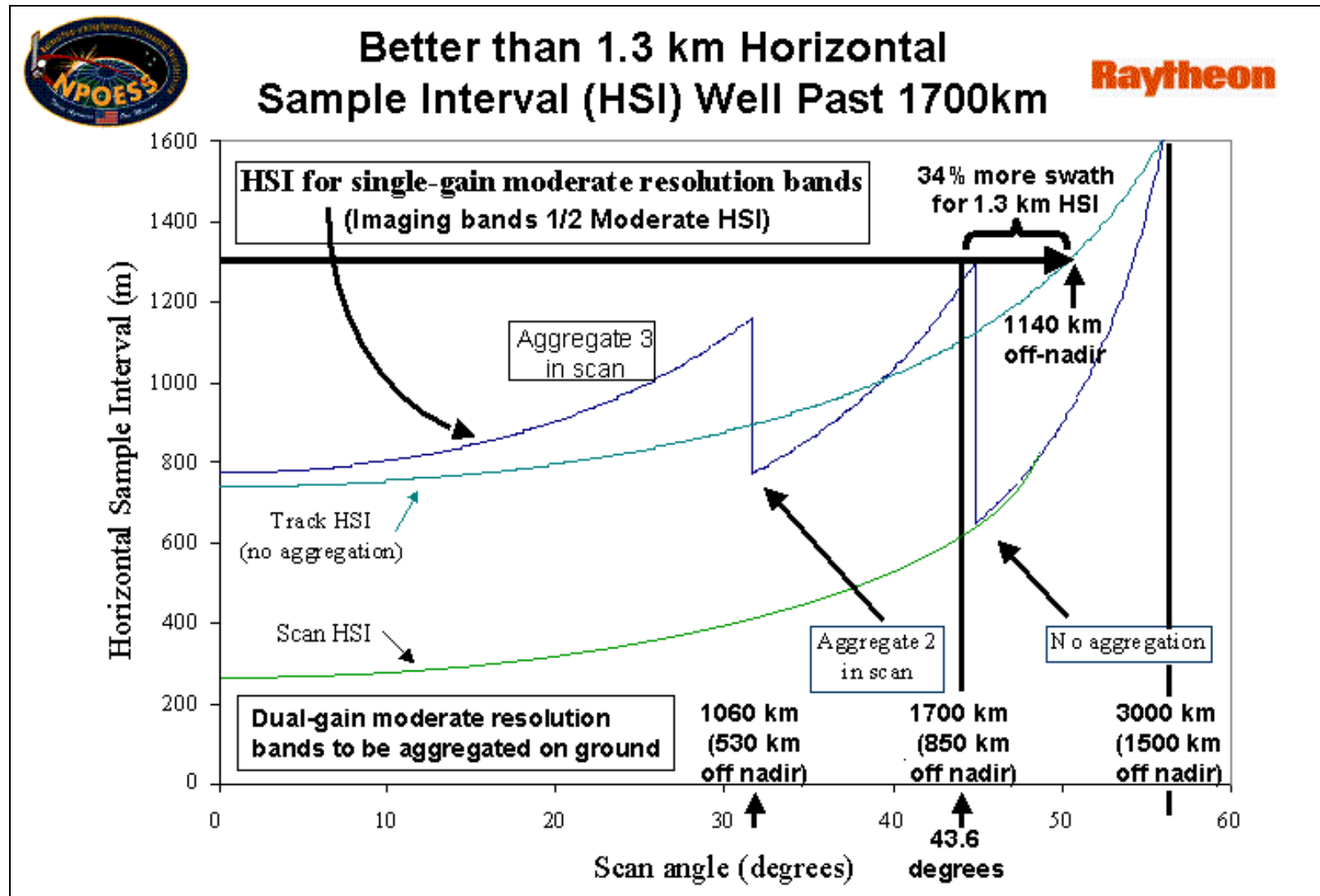
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SNR predicted and specified at worst-case edge of scan:
~60% better nadir SNR *and* finer spatial resolution

VIIRS Scan Geometry: How will image look nadir vs. Edge?



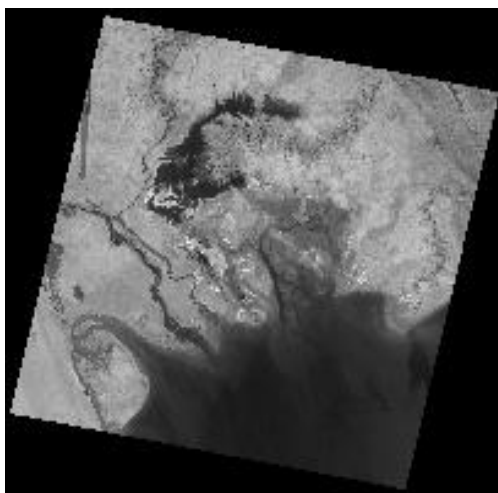
VIIRS Dramatically Improves Edge-of-Scan (EOS) Imagery

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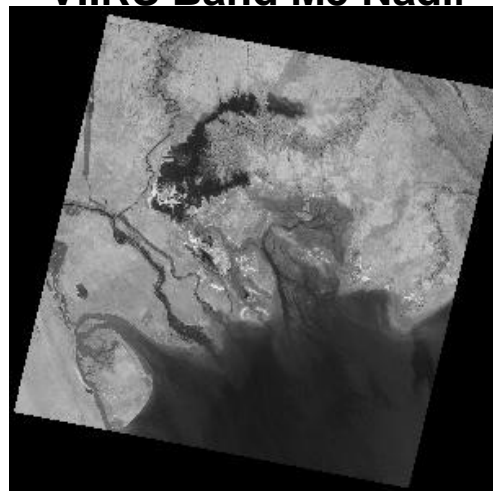
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Nadir
↓
Edge of Scan

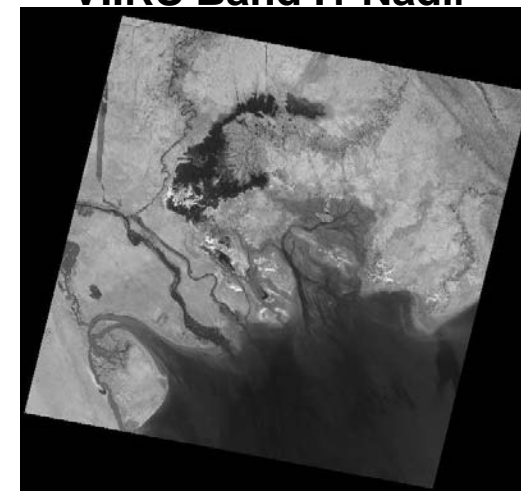
AVHRR Channel 1 Nadir



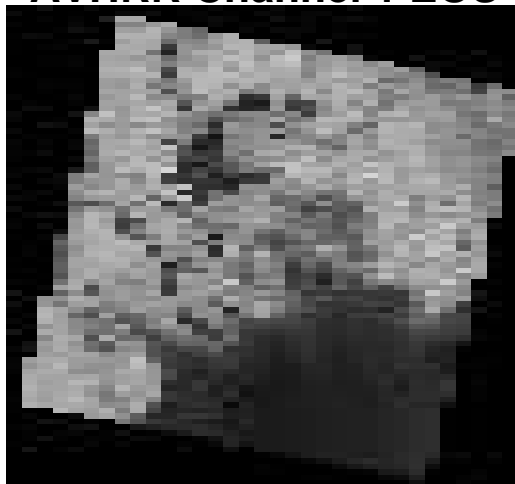
VIIRS Band M5 Nadir



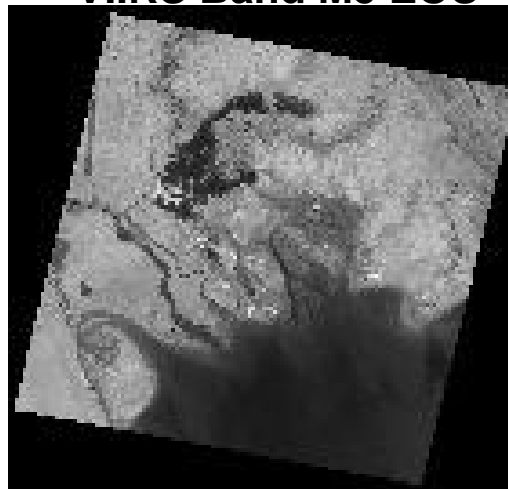
VIIRS Band I1 Nadir



AVHRR Channel 1 EOS



VIIRS Band M5 EOS



VIIRS Band I1 EOS

